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THE

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION

MAGAZINE.

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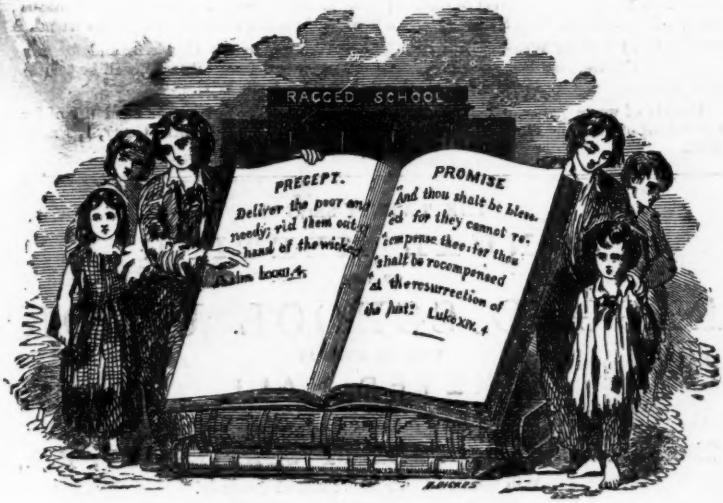
RAGGED SCHOOL
PRECEPT.
Deliver the poor and needy; rid them out of the hand of the wicked.
PROMISE
And thou shalt be blessed for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just. Luke XIV. 4

"The word of the Lord endureth for ever."—1 Peter i. 25.

PROFITS DEVOTED TO RAGGED SCHOOLS.

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* * All Communications to be addressed to the Editor, 1, Exeter Hall, London.
* Orders for Advertisements to be sent to Robert K. Burt, Printer, Holborn Hill.

CONTENTS.

	Page
Papers, Original and Selected—	
Ragged School Servants. Scholars' Prizes	73
Testimonial to Mr. Gent	79
Liverpool Shoe-black Society	80
In Memoriam. Mr. William West	84
Conference on Scholars' Prize Scheme	86
Girls' Household Brigade	90
Cuthbert Saved and sent out as an Emigrant	90
Margaret the worse than Orphan	91
The Teachers' Column—	
Anselm on School Discipline	93
Correspondence—	
Outcast Girls	94
Notices of Meetings—	
Camden Town—Kingsland Ragged Schools	96

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The Committee beg to acknowledge with grateful thanks the receipt of a parcel of clothing, &c., &c., from Mrs. Reade; a box of magazines, &c., from Lady Shakerley; a parcel of clothing from Mrs. Snashall; a parcel of miscellaneous articles from the late Mrs. Symons; and a bundle of clothes from an anonymous friend.

Parcels of Left-off Wearing Apparel, for distribution to the Children, and for our Industrial Classes, also Books or Magazines for forming School Libraries, will be thankfully acknowledged by MR. JOSEPH G. GENT, 1, Exeter Hall, W.C.

Parcels of waste paper, old magazines, reports, &c., &c., can be made good use of for the benefit of the Society, and will be thankfully acknowledged by Mr. GENT, 1, Exeter Hall.

THE TWENTY-SECOND

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION

WILL BE HELD IN

EXETER HALL,

On MONDAY EVENING, MAY 7th, 1866.

The Right Hon. the EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G.,

Will take the Chair at Six o'clock precisely.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

TO OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF RAGGED SCHOOLS.

Special Meetings for Thanksgiving and Prayer.—The Committee of the Ragged School Union earnestly desire that, on Sunday, May 6th, 1866, Special Meetings be convened in connection with the Schools, for Thanksgiving and Prayer, that God's blessing may rest upon the Ragged School Union Meeting, and give success to the Ragged School effort throughout the coming year.

A MASTER is required for the Clare Market Boys' Night Ragged School. Experience in the management of a Night Ragged School indispensable. Attendance required every night but Saturday. Salary £25 a year. Apply, by letter only, stating full particulars, to Mr. PALMER, 39, Liverpool Street, King's Cross, W.C.

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SHADWELL, E.

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These Schools were established in 1857, and are situate in one of the most sunken localities in the east of London, adjoining the *notorious* Ratcliff Highway. Some 400 destitute children are being taught in these schools; and but for this Institution would go altogether without Christian instruction. Such facts must stir the hearts of the benevolent to aid in this truly charitable work.

The Committee earnestly hope that many will come forward to lend a helping hand in so good a cause.—Psalm xli. 1—3.

Donations will be most thankfully received and acknowledged by

No. 7, Albion Terrace, Commercial Road, E. W. H. HATCHARD, *Hon. Sec.*

J. E. EAREE,

BREAKFAST AND TEA CONTRACTOR,

127, HACKNEY ROAD, NEAR SHOREDITCH CHURCH.

J. E. E. respectfully begs to inform the Clergy, Superintendents of Schools, and others who are in the practice of commemorating their Anniversaries, etc., by Public Breakfasts and Tea Meetings, that he has every requisite for such occasions, comprising Tables, Coppers, and China to any extent, in a superior style, at extremely moderate charges.

J. E. E. tenders his sincere thanks to those ladies and gentlemen who have hitherto favoured him with their kind patronage, and hopes by strict attention to ensure a continuance of the same; he also begs most respectfully to solicit the favour of their recommendation.

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References are kindly permitted to be made to the Secretaries of the Ragged School Union and the Temperance League.

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.

ESTABLISHED FOR THE SUPPORT OF

FREE SCHOOLS FOR THE DESTITUTE POOR.

The following contributions have been received in aid of the Ragged School Union from the 20th of February to the 19th of March inclusive:—

General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Acworth, N. B., Esq.	2	2	0
Batty, Rev. W.	0	10	0
Bax, Miss Edith (Box).	1	3	4
Bingham, Miss	1	1	0
Bingham, Miss M.	1	1	0
Bliss, W., Esq.	1	1	0
Borthwick, Miss	0	10	0
Brice, A. A., Esq.	2	0	0
Bridger, Mr. A.	1	15	0
Brooke, Rev. J.	1	0	0
Brooke, Miss	1	0	0
Browne, Miss A. W. (col.)	5	0	0
Bryon, Mrs.	5	0	0
Chapple, Mrs.	0	10	0
Churchill, Miss E.	1	0	0
Churchill, Miss F.	1	0	0
Claypon, Mrs.	2	2	0
Clement, Mrs.	0	10	0
Clarke, Edward, Esq.	1	1	0
Conway, S., Esq.	2	0	0
Cox, Miss M. J., col. by—			
Bockett, Mrs.	1	1	0
Browne, G. M., Esq.	1	0	0
Browne, Mrs.	0	3	0
Box	0	2	3
Cox, Lieut. H. W. H.	2	10	0
Cox, Mrs.	2	10	0
Cox, E. W., Esq.	0	10	0
Cox, Miss M. J.	0	2	6
Cox, A. F.	0	1	6
Cox, Miss S. L.	0	1	0
Cox, Miss J. E.	0	2	0
Fenton, J.	0	4	0
Mitchell, Miss E.	0	1	0
Pastrine, Miss E.	0	1	0
Curling, Miss, per—			
Curling, Miss	0	10	0
Curling, Miss M.	0	10	0
Keating, Miss	1	0	0
Craik, Mrs.	5	0	0
Crooke, Miss S. S., col. by—			
Bailey, Mr. and Mrs.	0	5	0
" Servants of	0	2	0
Clarke, Mr. and Mrs.	0	5	0
Crooke, Miss	0	5	0
Greenwood, Mrs.	0	5	0
Harris, Mrs. Geo.	1	0	0
Heath, Miss	1	5	0
Henly, Mr.	0	10	0
Ladd, Mrs.	0	5	0
Penneger, Misses	0	15	0
Penneger, Mr. J., and Family	0	7	0
Penneger, Mr. C.	0	5	0
Sale of Work, per Miss Large	0	6	0
Small sums	3	5	0
Davison, J. S., Esq.	1	1	0
Ducie, Earl of	5	0	0
Etches, Mrs.	5	0	0
Etches, Miss	5	0	0
Findelay, Mrs.	1	1	0
Firman, Miss	0	10	0
Fisher, Miss E.	0	10	0
FitzWygram, Sir R.	1	0	0
Fowler, J. R., Esq.	1	1	0
Friend, A	0	3	0
Friends, Two, per Miss E. Fisher	0	7	6
Ginger, Miss	1	1	0
G. M.	5	0	0
Greatorex, John, Esq.	10	10	0
Gregson, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Guest, Mrs.	1	1	0
Hatchards, per Messrs. and Co.—			
Adams, Rev. R. L.	1	1	0
Carpmael, Mrs.	1	1	0
Carpmael, A., Esq.	1	1	0
Carpmael, W., Esq.	1	1	0
Christian	2	0	0
Crosse, Miss	1	3	0
Donation	10	0	0
K. W.	10	0	0
Morant, Major	1	1	0
Paget, Col. F.	5	5	0
Lawrence, Maj.-Gen.	5	0	0
St. John, Lady I.	2	2	0
Harcourt, Egerton, Esq.	1	0	0
Hartley, J., Esq.	2	2	0
H. C.	0	10	0
Heath, Miss C. A.	5	0	0
Henderson, Mrs.	2	0	0
Hill, Miss Julia	1	0	0
Pupils of ditto	1	0	0
Hoste, Mrs.	0	10	0
Irvine, Mrs.	1	1	0
Kilburn, Mrs. M. A.	2	0	0
Littledale, Major	5	5	0
Lorraine, Miss	1	0	0
Lyon, Miss B.	0	10	0
Macdona, Mrs.	1	1	0
Mills, Miss S., col. by—			
Booth, Mrs.	0	2	6
Cherry, Mr. S.	0	5	0
Friend, A	0	10	0
Hampton, Mrs.	1	0	0
Mills, Miss S.	0	5	0
Peppercorn, Mr.	0	10	0
Smith, Mrs. R.	0	10	0
Morris, Henry, Esq.	10	0	0
Mortlock, Mrs.	2	0	0
Mobley, Miss E.	0	10	0
Nisbet, per Messrs.—			
Dolben, Miss	2	0	0
Downie, Miss	5	0	0
Cooper, Miss	1	1	0
Cooper, Miss A.	1	1	0
Grahame, Mr.	1	0	0
Onslow, Hon. Miss	2	0	0
Saunders, Miss M. A.	0	10	6
Palk, Mr. Alderman	1	1	0
Papillon, Major, per Miss Hawkins	0	10	0
Phipps, C., Esq.	1	1	0
Phipps, Mrs.	1	1	0
Reade, Mrs.	0	10	0
Richards, Mrs.	0	10	0
Shuttleworth, Mrs., col. by—			
Allen, J.	0	0	9
Cottrell, A.	0	0	6
Cowell, Mr.	0	2	6
Gardner, Mr.	0	1	0
Greatwood, Mr.	0	1	0
Ives, Mrs.	0	1	0
Kent, Mr.	0	3	0
Kitchen, Mr.	0	5	0
Knight, J. W.	0	1	0
Knight, Mr.	0	1	0
M. K.	0	0	3
Merryfield Mrs.	0	5	0
Mosely, Mrs.	0	1	0
Mowbray, Mrs.	0	1	0
Mrs. S.	0	1	0
R. H. H.	0	5	0
Shuttleworth, Mrs.	0	10	0
Shuttleworth, Mr. J.	0	5	0
Shuttleworth, S.	0	5	0
Shuttleworth, G.	0	5	0
T. B.	0	1	0
Tarn, W., Esq.	0	10	0
Taylor, Mr.	0	2	6
Vere, Mr.	0	1	0
Smith, Rev. H.	1	1	0
Smith, Mrs. H.	1	1	0
Smith, Miss	1	1	0
Stapler, Miss	1	1	0
Taylor, General	10	0	0
Thomas, W., Esq.	2	2	0
Tomkins, Miss Jane, col. by	1	4	0
Trinity Chapel, Johnst., Edgware-road, Sunday-school, Children of, per J. Cunliffe, Esq.	5	0	0
Tucker, Mrs. Hy.	2	0	0
Vulliamy, L., Esq.	10	0	0
Wickham, W., Esq.	1	0	0
Woodhouse, A. G., Esq.	2	2	0
Wrey, Mrs. G. B.	3	14	0
Wynen, G. S., Esq.	1	1	0
Wynen, Mr.	0	10	6
Wyon, J. S., Esq.	1	1	0
Yorke, Miss C.	1	0	0

Excursion Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Reade, Mrs.	0	10	0
White, J., Esq.	1	0	0

School Fund.

Albert Street.

	£	s.	d.
Lys, Rev. J. T.	5	0	0
Sunday-school Teacher	0	2	0

Grotto Passage.

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Carpmael, W., Esq.	1	1	0

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	£	s.	d.
Brodie, Mrs.	1	0	0
Carpmael, W., Esq.	1	1	0
Franco, Mrs.	0	2	6
Hawkins, Miss (col.)	3	3	0
Henderson, Mrs.	1	0	0
Jackson, Mrs. W.	0	10	0
Jackson, Mr. H.	0	2	6
Lys, Rev. J. T.	5	0	0
Snashall, Mrs. (col.)	0	10	9
Stephenson, Mrs.	0	2	6

Maida Hill.

	£	s.	d.
Taylor, Mrs.	1	0	0

St. Giles's Boys' C. Home.

	£	s.	d.
Piffard, Mrs.	10	0	0
Wright, Mrs. W.	2	2	0

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FRIENDLESS AND FALLEN.

LONDON FEMALE PREVENTIVE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.

PRESIDENT, REV. CANON DALE.

The No. of inmates in the Homes the week ending			March 3rd .	117.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	10th .	111.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	17th .	124.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	24th .	116.

Since the 1st of January, 1866, ninety-nine poor young women have been admitted to the benefits of this Institution. Funds are greatly needed to sustain the increasing operations of this Society.

Orphans and Country Girls always have the preference. £10 is the average cost of each case admitted.

Contributions in Post-office Orders, Cheques, &c., will be thankfully received by
Messrs. BOSANQUET & Co., Bankers, 73, Lombard Street, E.C.
FRANCIS NICHOLLS, Esq. (of the Committee), 14, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C.
Mr. E. W. THOMAS, Secretary, 200, Euston Road, N.W.

NICHOL STREET

Ragged Schools, Missions, and Working Men's Club,

BETHNAL GREEN.

These schools, established in 1843, are situated in one of the most destitute districts of London. Commencing with one room, the work steadily grew, until the one became sixteen; but then dilapidations became so serious, that in very self-defence they had to be given up. Freehold land close by, amply sufficient, was fortunately obtained by the Committee, at a cost of £850, and a portion of the land was covered with plain school buildings, which were opened free of debt. But from the dense population of the district, and the number of the children (about 1,200) crowding into the schools, still further accommodation is absolutely necessary.

But by these efforts, and by raising about £300 a year for the support of the School and Mission, the Committee and friends of the school, who mostly live three miles distant from the scene of their work, and have no special connection with the neighbourhood, have done what they can, and are now compelled to appeal to others for the assistance necessary to complete their plans by covering the vacant piece of land in their possession.

In this the Committee have the cordial approval and assistance of Lord Shaftesbury and the Rector of Bethnal Green.

Of the one thousand pounds asked for, half has been already obtained, but five hundred pounds are still required, and the Committee are very anxious to open the Schools next March, free of debt, and thus claim the grant promised by the Ragged School Union.

Donations will be thankfully received by Mr. GENT, Secretary, Ragged School Union, Exeter Hall; or by

HENRY SPICER, Jun.,
68, Upper Thames Street, E.C.

Papers, Original and Selected.

RAGGED SCHOOL SERVANTS.

SCHOLARS' PRIZES.

ANOTHER of those great meetings has been held in Exeter Hall, that mark the progress of the Ragged School movement in London. Monday evening, March 19th, was fixed by Lord Shaftesbury for the distribution of the prizes that had been awarded by the Committee of the Parent Society, to those boys and girls who had been scholars in Ragged Schools, but are now filling positions of trust and usefulness, where by self-effort they obtain self-support. Applications for admission to the meeting was made by many who desired to be present, but without success, in consequence of having neglected to seek for tickets till they were all distributed.

These annual prizes consist of a small sum of money for the first year's service, and a beautifully lithographed card. The prizes after the first year consist of the card only. The object of these prizes is :—

1st.—To continue a kindly influence over the boys and girls after they have left the schools.

2nd.—To break up a love of needless change, to form good habits, to cultivate respectful behaviour, and to awaken a love for consecutive labour.

3rd.—To impress upon the mind the value of acquiring a good character from employers.

From the reports in the newspapers of the illness of Lord Shaftesbury, it was concluded by many friends that the distribution would now, for the first time, be made by deputy, but the fears thus excited were allayed by the Secretary receiving during the day the following note from his Lordship :—

"*March* 19.

"DEAR GENT,—I have a return of the attack in my face, and very annoying it is. I will endeavour to come for *ten minutes* or so, simply to show my good will, and prevent misstatements.

"The doctor, however, whom I have not yet seen, may forbid me.

"Yours, truly,

"SHAFTESBURY."

Punctually at the appointed time his Lordship arrived. The young people having had their tea and cake, the business of the evening was at once proceeded with.

Mr. GENT being called upon by the Chairman, stated, that—

"The present was the thirteenth occasion that annual prizes have been awarded to the boys and girls from Ragged Schools, who have become good servants, and have complied with the conditions laid down for their guidance. During these thirteen years the total number of prizes, including those of that evening, has amounted to 7,552, of which number 4,402 were to boys, and 3,150 were to girls. The average for each year has been 581.

"On that occasion there had been 627 competitors for the prizes, and 556 had succeeded in taking them. These have been recommended from 80 schools, situated in all parts of the metropolis. Of the 556 prize-holders present, 297 were boys, and 259 were girls. Of the boys, 55 have taken prizes in former years. In this respect the girls have outdone the boys, as 61 of the girls take prizes to-night for the second and third time, and some of both sexes do so for the fifth time. The period these young people have held their situations varies, none less than one year, but some have held their places as many as eight years.

"Upon a careful scrutiny of the applications, and the recommendations accompanying them, the Committee are of opinion that there has been an increasing care in the selection of the boys and girls, and that these young people are increasingly worthy of the prizes awarded to them. While as many as 42 boys and 29 girls failed to comply with the conditions, yet that failure in no case arose from any moral fault, but mostly arose from not being long enough in place, or because they were either too young or too old.

"The Committee, in awarding these prizes, have been much gratified with the clear evidence afforded them of the growth of moral character that is being formed by many of the old scholars from Ragged Schools; and they are of opinion that the scheme of these annual prizes has been promotive of industry, respectful behaviour, and patient perseverance in the path of rectitude. The possession of the prize cards has helped some of the holders into better positions involving trust and requiring increasing care and attention."

Lord SHAFTESBURY, addressing the prize-holders, said :—

"Boys and girls,—I have only a few minutes that I can spend with you. I came here in haste, and I must go away in haste, and I will tell you why. I am very much obliged to my doctor that he let me come here at all. The truth is I had some time ago a violent affection of the face, caused by the east wind. I got better of it, but I had a very bad relapse on Saturday, and by God's blessing am a little better now; but I don't want, if I can avoid it, to have another relapse, and therefore, under his advice, after I have just done the preliminary duties of the evening, I shall, with your permission, go away. I dare say you would ask me why I came here at all under these circumstances. The reason is I really wished to come and show the deep affection I have for you boys and girls. (Vociferous applause.) I did not like this meeting to go by without being present at it. I don't think I have ever missed it before, and by God's blessing I never will miss it if I can help it. (Applause.) I would rather have been brought here upon a stretcher or in a sedan chair. (Uproarious applause.) But also I wished to show to my friends that I was not quite so ill as I was represented to be in the papers.

(Applause.) I must go, like the Ragged Schools, upon the preventive principle, and, therefore, to prevent my having another relapse, I shall, as soon as possible, go from this room, but I hope not until I have been able to distribute the prizes. (Continued applause.) Now, look here, since I met you last year we have had a very curious meeting of a great number of wild, and wandering, and ragged boys of London, and I want to tell you the good effect our movement has produced upon them, and I ascribe it in no little measure to the good example you children set in the schools where you are brought up. Well, we had a supper for about 250 of those wild lads. They conducted themselves wonderfully well in every respect; they were not only ordinarily behaved, but they took very good care to show that everything prepared for them was to their satisfaction, for they left not enough to feed a rabbit. (Loud applause.) On the following day a good many presented themselves at our invitation for admission into the Refuge. We have been enabled to take in about 54 of that curious class of wandering boys. But you will ask, I dare say, whether they have given us any trouble. I assure you—and a remarkable thing it is, a thing for which we ought to thank God—those boys have gone into their duties, and have now been tested for more than three weeks, with a steadiness, and order, and goodwill that would be satisfactory in a well-established Ragged School. (Applause.) They like their work, they are very diligent, and they are very kind one to another. Now, I will tell you a story of one of them. I saw it and heard it myself, and I don't think I ever was more touched in my life than by what I saw and heard. There came a very nice lad of about 15; he came with his mother. His mother had evidently great affection for him. We told her we would take him in, when she took him aside and gave him a kiss such as none could give but a mother to the son she loves. The poor boy began to shed tears silently, and they rolled down his cheeks. The other boys around him began to laugh and jeer, but I turned round and I said, 'Boys, this is very bad, this is not a good sign in you; that boy is a good boy, for he loves his mother, and if a boy loves his mother, depend upon it there is a great deal in him.' What did the boys do? Did they continue to jeer? No, quite the reverse; they all went round him and said, 'Cheer up, Bill; cheer up, Bill; you will soon see your mother again; she will soon come back.' (Loud applause.) Thus these wild and rough boys, who are supposed, by those who do not know them, to be destitute of all domestic affection, have exhibited that which was in their hearts, and which care and the blessing of the Gospel might bring out, and instead of wasting such a mass of life, we might have thousands and tens of thousands of boys and girls brought up to support the Queen and the realm, and to be prepared for the happy citizenship we have for them. Had not our friends, some years ago, collected together the Ragged Schools, and plucked out of the mire all the thousands and the tens of thousands who have been reclaimed, the influence of those thousands would have passed away without good, but here are good boys and girls before me to-night. Why, they used to think that all those poor and vagabond children were totally irreclaimable. We knew better; God gave us greater wisdom than they; efforts were made to collect them, and I ask this to-night:—Of all the institutions that England has rejoiced in, among all the establishments God has blessed, from which has issued a greater number of true, upright, peaceable men and women than have come out of the Ragged Schools of this metropolis of London? (Loud applause.) And by God's blessing many more are to come; and I hope that I shall be spared, and that my friends on the platform will be spared, and that all our friends who are not present may be spared, to have many such anniversaries as this, many such

opportunities of rejoicing in seeing this great work, which is one of the eternal effects of the ever living life and truth of God. I want you to join with me in a sentiment. I am going to ask you to give three times three cheers. (Cheers.) You are a little bit too soon. I should tell you, by-the-bye, that those wild boys I was speaking about sang one or two hymns, and the people collected were very much astonished that some of those wild boys knew some of the words and some of the tunes we sang. After I had questioned them, I understood many of them had been in a Ragged School, some of them only for an hour or two, some for a day or two, but even during their short passage through the school they had retained so much of the truth they had learned that they were enabled to join in the hymns. You must know perfectly well that if we work for you, you must work with us; we cannot do everything. Therefore, let me tell you this, that high and low, rich and poor, small and great, young boys like you and Counsellor Payne, and old boys like myself—(cheers)—and all here, I ask you to give three times three and one over for the friends of the Ragged School. You may have it in the highest possible sense, you may have it in a spiritual sense, I say I give you now, a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether—now, three times three for them. (Loud and continued cheering.) I wish you a good night, but just one thing, there is no prize for me. I heard what was said by Mr. Gent, that some were excluded because they were either too young or too old, so there is none either for Counsellor Payne or myself, —the Counsellor is too young and I am too old! (Loud applause.)"

The youths were also addressed by the Rev. W. CADMAN, on the promoters of the Ragged School Movement being influenced by the following considerations—

1. The Love of Christ.
2. The Truth of the Bible.
3. The reality of a Judgment to come.

As is our usual custom, we purpose insèrting this address in "Our Children's Magazine," that as many children as possible may have the opportunity of reading it.

JOSEPH PAYNE, Esq., was next enthusiastically received by the company, and then proceeded to say:—

"My dear young friends,—I should be very sorry to destroy any of the effect of what has been so beautifully said by our excellent friend Mr. Cadman. But he has given you the motive of action, and it is my place to supply the things that you are to do in consequence of what he has said to you. There was an old saying amongst the ancients that 'a great book is a great evil,' and there is a modern saying among us people that 'a long speech is a great nuisance.' I entirely agree with both, and I certainly don't mean to inflict a long speech upon you. I am only going to ask you to listen—not to three things that Mr. Cadman has said, but to three times three that spring out of them. Now, the first of the three things is this. If you want to follow Mr. Cadman's advice therefore—

Don't tell a lie;
Never say die;
Don't thrust your hand into another person's pie.

Be truthful, be courageous, be honest. Don't tell a lie. I heard of a boy over in the borough of Southwark, whose master told him to say he was not at home when he was in the back-parlour. Somebody called for the master, and the boy told him he was at home. The master was very angry, and, calling the boy, told him he would not suit, and that he should send him away. The boy said, 'I don't want to leave you, but just think before you turn me away; suppose I tell another person a lie and deceive them, what security have you that I shall not tell *you* a lie and deceive you?' Well now, I say, however you may be tempted, always bear in mind what Mr. Cadman said, and don't tell a lie. I say, 'Never say die.' There was a boy in Ireland whose father flogged him most cruelly and brutally. He wanted him to say what he ought not to say in reference to the Christian religion, but the boy said, 'You may flog me, you may kill me, but you will not make me say it, because I should be offending my Saviour.' Now, imitate this courageous lad, and if you want to carry out in practice the Bible doctrine that Mr. Cadman told you of, you must 'never say die.' And then, 'You must not thrust your hand into another person's pie.' It is for Mr. Cadman to preach to you of the Lord Jesus Christ, but my plan is the polarization of light, and I am trying to polarize that wisdom which Mr. Cadman has set before you. I dare say many of you have read of—

'Little Jack Horner
Sat in a corner,
Eating his Christmas pie;
And he put in his thumb,
And pulled out a plum,
And said, "What a good boy am I."'

He had a right to put his thumb into his own pie, but if any other person had come and thrust his hand into Jack Horner's pie, instead of saying, 'What a good boy am I,' he ought to have said, 'What a bad boy are you.' Therefore the lesson to be derived from this is, that you must be honest. A person has a right to put his hand into his own pocket, or into his own portmanteau, but nobody has a right to take from another that which does not belong to him. Therefore say with me—

Don't tell a lie;
Never say die;
Don't put your hand into another person's pie.

Now for the second three of the three times three—

Shun heavy wet;
Never make a bet;
Get what you can; don't waste what you get.

I dare say most of you know what I mean by 'Shun heavy wet.' Now, if young people keep from strong drink they are in a fair way to prosper, but if they once begin to drink they get themselves into all manner of difficulty; therefore, I say, 'Shun heavy wet.' We are going to have a meeting on Friday night to endeavour to get 'Bands of Hope' into all the Ragged Schools that we can. (Hear, hear.) Then, 'Never make a bet.' I have seen so many who have come to ruin by betting, or more properly gambling, that I strongly advise you, 'Never make a bet.' Many cases have occurred of stealing in which money has been stolen to make bets and pay them; therefore never make a bet, if you want to avoid ruin. Then, 'Get what you can, and don't waste what you get.' Get what you can honestly; work for it, earn it, and when you have got it be careful over it and don't waste it. I will give you three proverbs, 'A penny saved is a penny got,' 'A pin a day is a groat a year,' ''Tis money makes the mare to go.' Now always remember to 'Get what you can, but don't waste what you get.' Then the last of the three times three is—

Work in the light;
Sleep in the night;
Pray to God always, and hold his word tight.

'Work in the light.' Don't trifle with or play away your time in the day, but do your duty manfully. Work steadily in

the day time, and 'sleep well in the night.' Don't sit up wasting your time, but get refreshment and rest, and then you will be able to do your duty the next day properly. 'Pray to God always.' The smallest child may do this, and ought to do it. A boy is not of much account unless he prays to God. Then there is another thing I want to say, 'Stick to your teacher, and always be kind to dumb animals.' And the last is, 'Hold His word tight.' I heard of something which occurred in Ireland. After a fight a soldier heard one of his comrades shouting out, so he called out to him, 'Pat, what is it?' 'I have got a prisoner,' said Pat. 'Then bring him along.' 'I can't.' 'Why?' 'Because he won't let me.' 'Then come along without him.' 'I can't.' 'Why?' 'Because he won't let me.' The prisoner had got fast hold of Pat and made him prisoner, and so I want you to hold God's blessed book tight and never let it go. Get his holy word into your hearts and hold it tight. And now a word to those who are gathered together on this platform, a word on behalf of this noble institution. My good friends who are here assembled, I wish you to do four things for this Ragged School Union. They are—

To feel for it;
To kneel for it;
To steal for it;
And to appeal for it.

Now I say, 'You must feel for it.' Can you look upon all these children and not feel for it? I have met lately with a very interesting circumstance in connection with these prize cards. I have been now a Judge to try prisoners for upwards of six years, and during that time I have tried many thousands, but out of the many thousands I have tried in the county of Middlesex—which would furnish most of the prisoners in connection with these schools—never till the other day did I meet with a single instance of one who had got a prize card being in any trouble at all. The other day I did meet with two cases, and the prize card was made use of by the counsel as an argument in favour of the prisoner. They were indicted for stealing and the minds of the jury and also myself were favourably impressed by the good characters these lads had borne up to that time. One of them was proved to be entirely innocent, and we gave him back his card. You know, if an officer is tried by a court-martial and acquitted, after the trial his sword would be handed back to him, and so this prize card, which had been taken away at the commencement of the trial, was handed back to him free from any injury or damage. You cannot expect that every one of these lads will be good and none of them fail. The second case was one in which the prisoner had been led away by very peculiar circumstances, and his card raised him up friends, for a gentleman came forward and promised to be answerable for his appearance when he was wanted, and I took his security, and was delighted to have the opportunity of doing so, for another friend came forward, and said he would get him a ship and send him away on a long voyage to get him away from the influence of those persons who had led him astray. Thus, you see, these cards are beneficial. Therefore, I say, you ought to feel for this institution. You ought also to kneel for it. There is a saying, 'First worship God.'

'He that forgets to pray,
Bids not himself good-morrow or good-day.'

Prayer is very powerful; therefore, friends of this institution, 'Kneel for it.' 'Steal for it.' I dare say you will think this is an odd thing for a Judge to recommend *stealing*. Why, the best of all ways to lengthen our days is to steal a few hours from the night, and go to the night schools; go to the Refuge, and see what you can do, and if you don't come away better I shall be thoroughly ashamed of you, and you will be thoroughly ashamed of yourselves. 'Appeal for it.' Get money for it, get

friends for it; you must appeal for it. There are two ways of appealing for it. There are two ways of getting money for it. There is the card and the box. I don't like the card, because you go to a person with it; they give you their name but they don't give you the money; but if the money once gets into the box it can't get out again. I heard once of a poor girl, who was called Deaf and Blind Sal. She went about soliciting money, and some of the people scolded her very severely, but it did not matter, for she could not hear; others frowned upon her, but she was blind and could not see it; so she was never put out, but she felt when they dropped money into the box, and she always dropped a curtsey. Now, I don't want any of you to be deaf or blind. But you that are connected with the Ragged Schools, when people frown upon you be as though you were blind, and when they scold you be as though you were deaf. There was an excellent man in former days who was asked how it was he got on so well in the world. He replied, 'By being deaf when I might hear, by being blind when I might see, and by being dumb when I might speak.'"

Immediately after Mr. Payne's address, a series of illustrations from Scripture were given on a disc of 18 feet diameter, by JOHN HARRIS, Esq., and the explanations were given by THOMAS BROOKER, Esq. These illustrations were of great brilliancy and of remarkable beauty; and the effect on the meeting was of a most pleasing character. Mr. DAY, of the East Street Schools, Marylebone, skilfully used the harmonium for the few seconds that one picture was dissolving into another, and he was most effectively aided by a choir of sixteen of his scholars, whose vocal powers blended well with the tones of the instrument. The instrument was lent by a lady friend for this occasion.

On Lord SHAFTESBURY leaving the hall, the chair was occupied by Sir R. W. CARDEN, Ald., and the proceedings of the happy evening were brought to a close at 9.30. p.m., with the benediction being pronounced by the Rev. J. H. MORAN, the late chaplain of the Brixton Prison.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. GENT.

WE have been requested to add to the report of this subject, given in our last number, that the expenses of the tea and coffee provided on that occasion were not paid out of the Testimonial Fund, but were paid by Lord Shaftesbury, Joseph Payne, Esq., and W. J. Maxwell, Esq., as the mode by which they felt free, in addition to their personal efforts, to show their sympathy with the movement. They did not consider themselves within the definition of eligible subscribers to the fund, and, wishing to have some definite connection with the testimonial, agreed to invite all the subscribers, with Mr. Gent and his family, to an entertainment, all the expenses of which were defrayed by them.

LIVERPOOL SHOE-BLACK SOCIETY.

THE third annual meeting of this society was held on the 12th of February, in Hope Hall. After prayer, Mr. Peers, the secretary, read the report, from which we extract the following:—

"The Committee of the Liverpool Shoe-black Society have great pleasure in presenting a favourable report of the progress of this society during the present year.

"At the close of last year there remained on the books of the institution 31 boys, and there have been admitted during the year 264, together, 295. Of these there have been placed in situations, 15; gone to sea, 3; training ship, 3; discharged, 31; left of their own accord, 187; total, 239; leaving on the books, 56. The only reason that can be assigned for so large a number leaving on their own accord is the restraint and discipline they are obliged to undergo to insure the successful working of the society. However, it will be seen, from the increased numbers admitted, that the benefits of the institution are becoming more widely known. That the Committee have been the means, under God's blessing, of doing much good amongst this class of street lads, is evident by the satisfactory letters that have been received from employers who have had boys from this society upwards of twelve months. Boys from the country are admitted, on application, until inquiries have been made as to the truth of their statements, and, in many instances, they have been, through the medium of this institution, restored to their parents. The Committee have much pleasure in stating that three of the boys from this society have already been received on board the training ship *Indefatigable*. Of these, two joined the vessel in October, and the captain speaks in the highest terms of their good conduct, one of them having been raised to the rank of a petty officer, and the other is promised a similar promotion; the third boy only joined on the 31st of January.

"The Committee award thanks to several individuals, and to Major Greig and the police force, for the kind protection they at all times afford to the boys in the brigade. The amount of subscriptions and donations show a decrease of £15 3s. 2d., the total sum being £195 0s. 4d., against £210 3s. 6d. received the previous year. There has been an increase in the money received from the boys for the use of uniforms, boxes, brushes, and blacking, the amount received having been £75 11s. 11d., against £62 9s. 11d., showing an increase of £13 2s.; and for breakfasts, dinners, teas, &c., £110 14s. 4d., and for the previous year £82 1s. 11d., being an increase of £28 12s. 5d., and the whole expenditure for the year amounts to £396 8s. 2d., leaving a balance due to the treasurer of £6 14s. 5d. The earnings of the boys during the year have amounted to £361.

"The Committee cannot close this report without recording their deep regret at the great loss they have sustained by the death of Mr. Francis Mill, their late treasurer and the founder of this institution, and to whose energy and active benevolence it owes its present successful position."

The MAYOR said it had fallen to his duty to preside over many meetings not exactly like the present. The Shoe-black Society seemed to be one almost isolated from all the others. Still he was very glad that he had been asked to have the honour of presiding on that occasion. He was not aware that he should see so many boys present as he now saw before him, but he was very glad to see them there, and to give the countenance of the Mayor for the time being to such a valu-

able institution. Now, those were not boys that had been sent to a reformatory institution, that had committed some depredation, been before the magistrate, and committed to a prison or to a reformatory, and afterwards released. But those were boys who were taken hold of by kind friends in order to take them from that which might do them an injury, and place them in a position which should show them, by studying their own course, and by a course of industry and good conduct, how they might earn a respectable living. He trusted that in after-life those boys would duly appreciate the kindness of those friends who established that society, when those friends should be no longer in their midst. He very much regretted to find that one kind friend, perhaps the kindest friend that the Shoe-black Society had had, had been already taken away. He need not mention, he was sure, the name of Mr. Mill, because every one present, and those members of the committee who had known his value, would remember the great interest that Mr. Mill had always taken in that society. They must bear in mind, in trying to establish a society of that sort, what those boys would have been doing if they had not been enrolled in that society, and what would those boys who had passed through the society have been if they had not been kindly taken hold of, and their uniforms and usual accoutrements provided to earn their living, in what he termed, and what he trusted they might feel to be, a respectable and creditable way. He wished the boys to understand, as they who were older in life understood, that when the character was right, and when there was industry connected with that character, there was respectability. His worship then addressed a few remarks chiefly to the boys, referring to the comfortable home provided for them, and the excellent arrangements therein—breakfast, dinner, and tea being provided at prime cost, any deficiency being made up from the contributions of the society. He encouraged them by stating that it did not follow that they were always to be shoe-blacks. He was glad to find by the report, that boys of good character, of perseverance, and of industry, were provided by the committee with other positions in life. He could not but suppose that even the 187 boys who had left the society of their own accord during the year, from the course of training for industry, integrity, and good conduct, would be much better prepared to earn their living than if they had never joined the society at all. When they considered that the 56 boys now on the books earned for the year £361, he thought it was marvellous; and they had contributed for breakfast and tea no less than £110. Those boys were beginning life in the right way, and he trusted that that early beginning would prove a benefit to them as long as they lived.

Mr. T. S. RAFFLES moved the adoption of the report, and said he did not know he could stand forward on any platform to address an audience upon any subject, or in support of any institution, which more claimed their sympathy than did that society. They had, no doubt, at the present time numbers of societies all tending to the same end—the good of the people of the town, a great many devoted to the good of the younger portion of the town. This institution was one which bore a very pleasant aspect in the respect that the boys were, so far as they knew, untainted with crime; and he had been trying since he knew he should be coming to that meeting to remember if any of the boys of that brigade had ever been before him, and he had an indistinct impression that only upon one occasion had there been any boy belonging to that society before him. He might be wrong, but that was his impression. He had had the boys there as complainants, for he was sorry to say that sometimes they got more kicks than halfpence. None of them who were at all anxious to do good to that class of the community from which those boys came could be blind to the great good which the society had been doing. The secretary had informed him

that the number of boys who had entered the institution since it was established by the late Mr. Mill was 589; and the gross earnings in the three years the secretary calculated to be a little over £1,000. Really that was something for which he was totally unprepared. That was a most gratifying fact, and one which would tend to increase, he trusted, the subscription list of the society, so that they should not have next year to find that there was a balance against the treasurer. It seemed also that the number of boys who had obtained situations and gone away was 161; and in connection with the society it appeared that there was also a penny bank, and the secretary informed him that one of the boys had transferred his account to the savings' bank in Bold Street. In the face of all that, he thought the society had a very great claim upon the public, and he trusted that the public would not be backward to do all they could to forward its interests. The finding of employment for the boys appeared to him to be the most gratifying feature about it. Mr. Raffles then urged upon the boys the advisability of striving hard to get on in the world, illustrating his remarks by a reference to Telford, the engineer, who constructed the great Menai Bridge, and who was born within four mud walls in Scotland. He proceeded to say they found that, notwithstanding all the efforts that were made in behalf of the juvenile population of the town, juvenile crime was increasing. What argument should they draw from that? Certainly that they should not slacken their efforts. That would never do, because they should make bad worse. He accounted for the increase of juvenile crime to a great extent to the increase of population. They found the population of Liverpool constantly changing, and he very much feared they should have a constantly recurring influx of the class of individuals from whom disorder and crime arose. Notwithstanding reformatories, industrial schools, and such institutions as those, they found those boys were constantly increasing upon them, and in such a number that they hardly knew what to do with them. The deduction he drew from that was that, instead of relaxing their efforts they should increase them; instead of withdrawing their institutions, under the impression that they were not doing anything to decrease the mass of disorder and crime about them amongst the juveniles, they should redouble their efforts; and they should endeavour, by opening up new channels, to divert some of that disorder, and reduce the number of juveniles who were thrown on their streets to such an extent. It was but the other day that the Roman Catholics established an institution very similar in design to this, and he had reason to know that they were going on very successfully. If they had reason, as Protestants, to deal with those juveniles, they (the Roman Catholics) had far more, because he believed the percentage of Roman Catholics amongst those who got into disorder and crime was very much greater than the percentage of Protestants. They were from the lowest part of the population, and they ought not to be surprised that they furnished the large mass of the delinquents who were brought before public notice. And yet, after all, when they had done all, how little could they do to alleviate the wretchedness that there was around them! He did sincerely trust that those who had taken up that society would be encouraged to proceed in their work. They ought to have, and he was sure they deserved richly, their thanks. He for one felt very much indebted to them for the share which they took in the good work that was going on; and if that were so, let them endeavour in every way they could to second their efforts.

Mr. Edward Lawrence moved the appointment of the office-bearers for the ensuing year, and in doing so paid a tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Mill. That gentleman was present with them when they met there that time twelve months ago, and to him the town of Liverpool was indebted for the founda-

tion of that institution. It would not be thought out of place in him, even though by marriage connection he was closely related to him, if he paid a passing tribute on that occasion to his memory. He was one of those of whom it had been well said that they "did good by stealth, and blushed to find it fame." He was one of those who never obtruded himself upon the public gaze, and yet it was his highest pleasure ever to be engaged in works of charity and benevolence. It seemed to him that a character such as his indicated a higher degree of Christian excellence than belonged to that man who acted under the spur and impulse of public approval. They all knew how much more easy duty became when it was discharged in the presence of the public, and more especially when it was followed by the expression of public approval. Not that he would say one word in disparagement of duty and services so rendered; but he could not help thinking that the man who laboured daily in his own and in a less obtrusive sphere of action to promote the moral, the social, and the spiritual welfare of his fellow-creatures would ultimately achieve the higher reward. Such a man he believed their late friend Mr. Mill was; and he would say to the boys that he hoped they would ever treasure in their hearts the grateful recollection of all that he did for them, and that the lessons he taught them, whether by his own practical example, by his own Christian walk and conduct, or by the words of instruction which from time to time he addressed to them, would never be forgotten; and that as they grew up amidst the bustle and activity of life they would seek to do everything in their power, by striving to follow his example, and show how thoroughly they appreciated the work which he was engaged in, and the good that he endeavoured to do them. After referring to the progress made by the institution, and the increased moral status of the boys, Mr. Lawrence said he most cordially acquiesced with Mr. Hyde when he said that it was upon the rising generation that the greatest amount of practical good could be done, and that those who had grown old in crime, and become hardened in their habits, were difficult indeed to reclaim. But although the youth in the great towns of this land did, he feared, too speedily become hardened in crime, from the examples which were set around them on every side, yet if they were taken in time and at sufficiently early years, he believed that there was nothing to prevent them being thoroughly reclaimed, nay, and sent out into the world as active, able, and good citizens. It was to endeavour to accomplish that end that so many institutions existed in the present day, and the fact that crime amongst their juvenile population increased was no argument whatever against those institutions. He knew that it was sometimes used as such, but it was a perfect fallacy. The reply to that would be—How much worse would that be if those institutions did not exist? And when they had the practical proof afforded them by the history of those societies, and the details which were afforded in their working from time to time, and knew the advantage that in numberless given instances was rendered by them—good such as they had heard that night—proved most satisfactorily by the letter which had been read from one of the former inmates of that institution from the other side of the globe—when they saw all those things, and when they knew that those were not fictitious cases, dressed up to enlist the public, then they might feel assured that those institutions were doing good and righteous work in the land, that they deserved the honest and undivided support of all Englishmen; and, above all, must commend themselves to the thoughtful mind of every Christian.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Mayor, and the boys gave three hearty cheers for his Worship, who briefly responded.

In the course of the evening, the band played several popular tunes, and the boys sang some hymns. The National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

In Memoriam.

MR. WILLIAM WEST.

In our paper on the "The Origin of Ragged Schools," that appeared in this periodical in November, 1860, we had occasion to refer to Kent Street and the Mint, as the cradle of real Ragged Schools, but not then known by such cognomen. That was at the close of the last century and the beginning of the present. We now chronicle the doings of death in relation to one of the founders of these early schools for the destitute—a school that is still in operation for the benefit of the ragged poor. On the evening of the day when the *Times* recorded the death of good William West, the parents of the Ragged School scholars were assembled to hear an address from Mr. Gent, the Secretary of the Ragged School Union, and other friends, in the same room where he had laboured as a Christian teacher of the very poor for more than sixty-one years.

We are thus carried back by the remarkable longevity of this good man to the early history of schools for the poor.

In the year 1785, the first Sunday School in London was opened by the Rev. Rowland Hill, at Surrey Chapel. In or about 1798, Thomas Cranfield, that bold and valiant pioneer of the Gospel among the young, opened a second Sunday School in a room in Kent Street, most inconvenient, but far better than none; he then went and opened a third school in the Mint, Southwark—an equally degraded and dangerous place. In the year 1799, these three schools were formed into the Southwark Sunday School Society, and have remained in connection with it to the present day.

We leave to Mr. West's biographer to describe the place of birth, the pedigree, the religious character, and the private career of our departed friend; but the man was too well-known, and he served the Sunday School cause for too long a time, to allow of our doing other than gathering up some fragments of instruction from his life as a Sunday School Superintendent.

We remark first, at how early an age he began to be first a Christian, then a teacher, afterwards a superintendent. At the time of which we speak the scholars in Sunday Schools consisted of the poorest and most degraded class, and many of the teachers were of very humble origin who had themselves received very scanty education.

When Cranfield went to open the school in the Mint, there seemed a danger of the one in Kent Street being left without a guide and helper, and, therefore, a probability of its being closed; but young West and a few plain men kept open the school. That dear youth first gave his heart to Christ, and then, like Paul, quickly consecrated himself to Christ's

service. Redeemed by precious blood, renewed by sovereign grace, he felt no sacrifice or humiliation to be too great to make for Him who had given his life to save the guilty. He did not enter the Sunday School to be converted, but was converted first, and then recommended to others the Saviour whose grace he had found to be so precious to himself. No wonder that the teachers of that day could discover in that intelligent eye of his, in that unselfish consecration to the work of the Lord, and that retiring humility which so distinguished his character, qualifications for the office of leader at an age when few men possess a fitness for it. He thought he had hit on an expedient by which the reins of office should have devolved on his friend, more advanced in age and in position, but the teachers thought they had found the right man, and would think of no other. Men who think themselves to be least, are often found to be the best qualified to preside over others. It would no doubt have been an advantage to the youthful superintendent had he had a longer experience. Ten years after he accepted office, the new school-room in *Amicable Row*, Kent Street, was opened, and the numbers rose from 38, with which he began, to about 380. As the school increased, so did the number of teachers; and William West, from the first, was enabled satisfactorily to discharge the duties of his office, so as to give unfeigned satisfaction to his brethren.

His progress in the work was steady. In or about the year 1836, additional rooms were built, capable of accommodating 100 infant children and two senior classes—one male and one female. With these additional adjuncts the school received another augmentation, both of scholars and teachers, by which means the superintendent was able to supply, from time to time, the elementary classes with qualified teachers who themselves had been taught in the school.

The secretaries of the school have from time to time been various; but the office of superintendent was filled by our friend from September, 1804, to February, 1866, a period of more than 61 years. Only one Sabbath elapsed between his last visit and the day of his death. Such extraordinary length of service, and such undeviating adherence to a given course of Christian labour and active usefulness in one and the same sphere, call for our admiration and gratitude. Next to Christ, whom he loved much and loved supremely, the school was uppermost in his thoughts. Having never married, there was nothing to distract his attention; and from week to week, month to month, and year to year, did this honoured servant of Christ labour hard on the Sabbath and in the week, in season and out of season, to promote the temporal and spiritual welfare of the young. He may well be called the Apostle of Kent Street, and the school-room is better known by his name among the inhabitants of the locality, than by the actual name as it appears in print.

The secluded habits of Mr. West, commendable to a certain extent, led him to avoid much association with any adjoining school, or cultivate the society of men who made the improvement of the Sunday School system their perpetual study, hence he was not so publicly known as he would otherwise have been.

But, oh! it is a fine sight to see such a man as William West devoting his whole life to one grand and useful object, setting aside every obstacle,

and declaring with the apostle, "This one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

CONFERENCE ON SCHOLARS' PRIZE SCHEME.

THE officers of Ragged Schools, with a member from each of the local committees, were invited to a conference with the Committee of the Ragged School Union, to consider the subject of "*Scholars' prizes, their advantages and disadvantages.*" The conference was held on February 15th, at the hall of the Sunday School Union, 56, Old Bailey. About one hundred friends were present. Mr. Gent, the Secretary to the Parent Committee, was voted to the chair. The following paper was read by Mr. Watts on the occasion:—

From whatever point of view we take a glance at human nature, however varied in its manifestation, we find that it is uniform in its principles—we discover that rewards were looked forward to in all ages, since the oldest record in the world, the Bible, is full of instances. Moses looked for the recompense of reward, and the disciples of our Divine Master, when he tabernacled upon earth, had something of the same spirit when they exclaimed, "We have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?" And as every structure reared by the Ragged School, or any other system, should be established upon a sure foundation, I think the hints suggested from the before-mentioned illustrations will afford a corner-stone of sufficient size and strength, upon which may safely be established the principle of rewards.

Taking then for granted (at least for the present) that the principle is established as one having the highest authority, and therefore correct in foundation, if not in detail, we proceed briefly to inquire the purpose of the rewards being offered, the advantages or disadvantages of which we are met specially to consider to night.

In going into the question with unbiassed feeling, we must not stop to consider things as they ought to be, but to deal with them as we actually find them.

It may be adduced by some that character ought to be highly estimated by every individual, and find its own reward in the feeling that duty has been performed to the best of ability, as done in the sight of God and not unto man.

This is, doubtless, what ought to be, and unquestionably would be, were it not for fallen nature; were it not for the effects of sin no Ragged School effort would be needed; but so long as sin is mixed up with human nature, so long will man require a stimulant to the proper discharge of duty, especially so when parental duties have been neglected in the proper training of the youthful mind, to make them estimate character rightly, and thus prepare them for a proper discharge of the varied duties of life; but, as previously stated, we have practically to do with things as we find them, leaving those to discuss as to what things ought to be who have more time to loiter on the journey of life than the earnest Ragged School worker has.

Take a glance at the boys and girls of your Ragged School—what do you behold? Children with but little, if any, parental control or affection; children who, alas! may do as they like, or as circumstances may lead them, be it right or wrong, so long as they trouble not those who bear the name of parents.

These have had no home instructions as to the best way of getting or keeping a

good character; they have no parents to reason with them as to the duty, and, in many cases, blessings, arising from submission to authority. The Ragged School child's character is not, for the most part, formed by *home* but by *school* influence.

To aid the proper formation of character is the main object of these rewards; and, this being the principal object, there must be a standard of rules laid down, that judgment may be exercised in the proper distribution of them, that while on the one hand it is desired to act as a stimulant to exertion and care, vigilance must be exercised that the rules laid down be strictly adhered to, lest the rewards become too common, or too easily obtained, and thus prove to be a blank, producing, were it possible, neither good nor harm. But to my mind this cannot be; there are no stationary effects; if the good be not effected by forming in some slight degree the character, the latter or baneful influence must be the sad result, by lowering the importance of the object designed.

These rules must be carefully formed, and however perfect, and with however pure a spirit dictated, there must be advantages and disadvantages, and this brings us to the particular topic for this evening's consideration.

As a standard from which to start, I would take the rules laid down by the Ragged School Union, and briefly look at the advantages and disadvantages of some; and I do so under a settled conviction that if rewards are given at all, they must be awarded under some such code of regulations.*

1. Age. The disadvantage in this to me is, that it precludes many deserving, who are compelled to go out to battle amongst the toils of life at an earlier age than twelve. How many in our Ragged Schools go to the workshop at ten, or even earlier; and yet, forsooth, it would appear, notwithstanding this fact, they had no character to form until they had attained the age of twelve.

The advantage. That the Ragged School system does not acknowledge the very juvenile labour of the present day amongst the poorest classes; and why, because the class of appointments procured by these juvenile labourers are such, as a rule, as do not tend to elevate position, and does not sufficiently remove them from their own class, so that the hopes of much ultimate benefit are but faint.

2. This rule needs no comment; a time must be named so as to make them legitimately Ragged School scholars.

3. The disadvantage. The scholar may make one change, but at no longer interval than two weeks; no matter what treatment, no matter what his advantages, if he changed more than once, no matter what his character, as far as rewards are concerned he is not entitled.

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* 1. *They must be over twelve and under seventeen years of age.*

2. *They must have attended the Ragged School giving the recommendation at least six months previously to having entered their first situation.*

3. *Having kept one situation for twelve months, they are allowed to make one change, but must not be out of place for more than two weeks; in this case they are eligible for the Prize, provided they are in the second place December 25th. Certificates of character will be required from both situations.*

4. *If they have not before received a Money Prize, they will now be entitled to a Prize of Seven Shillings and Sixpence, as well as a Card, provided the Committee of the School recommending them will pay Two Shillings and Sixpence of that sum.*

5. *Those who have received a Money Prize previously, and are again recommended, will be entitled to a Prize Card.*

6. *They must have been regular in attendance at the Ragged or other Sunday School for the period for which they are recommended. This rule does not apply to domestic servants.*

He may be compelled to leave his situation from the affairs of his employers, and unable to obtain a second situation within the allotted time, but still no reward.

The advantage. Bear in mind the object, formation of character, also the sin mixed with human nature, and without this regulation the object would be frustrated; allow the boy or girl to change as often as they saw fit, to leave at every caprice of temper, or for some imaginary benefit, and there would be no training in the path of stability and firmness of purpose.

4. This requires no remark.

5. The disadvantage is, that a second year's good conduct is not prized, although it might have caused greater exertion and self-denial than the first, yet they only receive a card; and experience proves that the card is not, as a rule, highly prized alone. On the advantages, if there are any, of this, I must be silent.

I cannot forget our main object, the formation of character; and to gain this so as to obtain a permanent result, requires, to my mind, a little more, as also a prolonged encouragement.

Notwithstanding, however, what has been advanced, we must look at the system as a whole; and, gazing from this general point of view, I see no real disadvantage. It may be, and doubtless is, a question whether the advantages cannot be increased and greatly enhanced; but I cannot see any disadvantage in giving a reward, however small, or for however limited a period, to endeavour to obtain a right formation of character based upon proper and judicious regulations; but there is a question whether the advantages are made the most of, and whether the past method of awarding the prizes have had the desired effect, and whether by alteration or modifications the advantages cannot be increased.

The present system with but slight alteration has been adopted for twelve years. 6,996 scholars have received prizes, and I hesitate not to say that in many, very many of these cases, the rewards have proved a stimulant to the proper discharge of duties, checked in many cases a roving disposition, settled many a dissatisfied and uneasy mind, and, step by step, has formed that description of character which proves a blessing as years advance. Yet more—the rewards have in some instances been the means of raising the recipient a step higher in the social scale, and been the cause of advancement in other cases.

Nor is this all; they have been the means of retaining the scholars under the pious influence of the earnest teacher; it has identified the school with the welfare of the scholars in both worlds; it has taught many a boy and girl where their best earthly friends are to be found, and that the teachers, when necessary, are willing to take a parent's part, and to spare no trouble to advance their interests in time, as well as lead them to the Rock that is higher than I, that their noblest and best welfare may be secured at last. Still further, it has shown to employers and the world that the poor Ragged School scholar, uncared for perhaps by parents, have those whose aim is to advance and watch over the temporal interests of their charge, and those who have ever felt the chilling feeling of being alone in the affairs of time can best and most appreciate the advantages that in this way are connected with the scholars' prizes.

Now comes the question; if notwithstanding the many advantages that are realized (and if duly and carefully considered in all their bearings they are not of a trivial or unimportant nature), do they not fall short of what might be secured by some alteration of the scheme. I am inclined to think that were some modification and extension of the plan adopted, additional advantages would be obtained, and the results be of a more satisfactory and permanent character.

We have at the onset laid down as the object of the rewards, that which has been stated by the Parent Society, viz., formation of character. Now, as a rule, on account

of the little value set by the majority of the scholars upon the card, they are given one or two years for this to be done; and as the most important period of life draws on, when a teacher's council would prove most beneficial, the bond of connection is broken, from the fact that there is nothing to look forward to in the future; and who has not found in the intercourse with the Ragged School class that to do them any permanent good there must be some advantage to be looked forward to? It ought not to be so I admit, but that it is so there can be no question; the longer you can keep your scholars in close connection with their teachers the better for them; and in those cases where this connection has been maintained, the largest amount of good has been the result.

Entertaining such sentiments, it may be asked, what do you recommend? I may say I have thought much about it, have tried to work the scheme in many ways, and am free to confess that, whatever may be the plan, difficulties will arise, and disadvantages be mixed with regulations, that when duly regarded and acted up to, may have many advantages.

I hold with iron grasp the object, and firmly cling to the advantages of scholars being long continued in close connection with the school, and therefore would like to see a plan extending over a period of six years; say—

		s.	d.
1st application	Card and	2	6
2nd „	„	3	6
3rd „	„	5	0
4th „	„	6	6
5th „	„	7	6
6th „	„	10	0

On each application the former card to be produced, and the regulations laid down conformed with.

By such a scheme it is my opinion the objects would be better obtained, the advantages increased by keeping the scholars in close connection with the school, and the good resulting from the effort be of a more lasting character.

Thus have I endeavoured briefly and imperfectly to open the subject selected for this evening's consideration; it is not an unimportant matter, it involves important principles, and my only hope is that the imperfections of the paper may be made up by a full discussion of the matter, and that satisfactory results may be obtained from this evening's labours.

The discussion of the subject was then commenced, and continued with good spirit till past the usual time for closing the meeting. A great variety of suggestions were made, and have since been submitted to the Committee of the Parent Society, who have the subject under special consideration, with a view to improve, if possible, the mode and conditions of these prizes. We will take the earliest opportunity of letting our friends and teachers know of any alteration that may be decided upon for the guiding of future action.

GIRLS' HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE.

A MEETING was held on Wednesday night, March 7, in Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, to organize the "Girls' Household Brigade," the object of which is to employ girls under fifteen in domestic work, and to help them in saving part of their earnings, so as to enable them in time to emigrate or get into better service, having made a character for themselves by honest ndustry. Dr. Alfred Ebsworth, who is the principal promoter of the movement, after showing the need which exists for some plan to rescue poor and friendless girls from ruin, pointed out that there was abundance of employment waiting for them, and that the only thing needed was an agency which should bring the work and workers together. In his medical district, he said, extending from the celebrated Kent Street of old, through Lock's Fields, to East Lane, he has found that in the houses occupied by lodging-house keepers, and mechanics with wives and families, there is a universal want, that, namely, of a girl to go on errands, clean a stove, scour a floor, wash a few clothes, or nurse a child. In the practical working of the Girls' Household Brigade, the Doctor felt convinced that the meeting would eventually accomplish a great national benefit, giving employment to thousands of poor girls, and helping at the same time to make the homes of City clerks and artisans and mechanics more enjoyable. In the course of the evening Dr. Ebsworth submitted, for inspection of the meeting, a zinc pail containing scrubbing-brush, three stove brushes, hand-broom, house-flannel, dry-rubber, housemaid's pad, woollen apron, which, together with wearing apparel, consisting of dark woollen dress, dark woollen round cloak or shawl, bonnet, and stout boots, will cost about £2.

CUTHBERT SAVED AND SENT OUT AS AN EMIGRANT.

THE Refuge School that was the means of saving poor Cuthbert was that in Great Queen Street, referred to in our last number as furnishing a home for 50 of the homeless boys of London, to whom a supper was given on February 14th.

Poor Cuthbert's parents were rather poor, but he says, "they had enough to keep them." His father was a plumber, but the mother seems to have been a victim to strong drink. When the boy was almost nine years old, the father left him and the mother, owing to the drinking propensities of the latter, and went to the gold diggings, in Australia. After the father left his wife, he remitted her money for the support of herself and the boy until he heard she was unfaithful; and to such a length did the poor woman go with her drunkenness and profligacy, that the lad could bear it no longer, and therefore he determined he would leave her and come to London, for she had so sunken down into sin and wickedness that the boy was ashamed to own her any longer as his mother. He came to London in the hope of getting something to do whereby he might earn his own living. He came

by a steamer from Newcastle to London for a few shillings. Having a small trifle left, he went to a coffee-shop to lodge till all his money was gone, and then he had to leave and wander about the streets, for he knew no one in London to give him a crumb of bread or a place where he could lay his head. When he was without money, food, or shelter, he was met by the Secretary of the Refuge, who, seeing him strolling along New Oxford Street, ragged and dirty, with a thin pale face, which indicated much thoughtfulness and grief, and which bore evident marks of great dejection, stopped him, and having ascertained that he had neither home nor friends in London, gave him the address of the Refuge, and directed him how to find it. The young stranger was not long in finding his way there, and was admitted at once. His manners and behaviour were very good, and he greatly appreciated the Refuge; no boy more so. After he had been there a little while he obtained from Newcastle his father's address in Australia. The Secretary communicated with the father with a view of prevailing on him to remit money enough for the passage and outfit of the boy to the colony. The father replied that he was unable to do so, but that he should be happy to receive his boy and take all the care of him in his power. The Committee therefore deemed it the best course to let the boy accompany the other lads, and accordingly he went out with them.

Poor Cuthbert, for that was his name, was a very steady, intelligent lad, of a meek and quiet spirit. He was often observed in deep thoughtfulness, and, although he very rarely referred to his abandoned mother, it is believed she often occupied the thoughts of the poor boy, and brought grief to his heart, when he reflected on the downward path she was pursuing. He was greatly cheered when intelligence came from his father, and ultimately, when the prospect arrived of again seeing him, he brightened up amazingly. He was a grateful boy, and just before he left he wrote as follows:—"I have every reason to thank God that I got into this institution, where I have been taught to read my Bible, and I hope God may bless my kind friends who have sustained me, but I have every reason to be thankful to Mr. Williams and Mr. Wood, who have been like parents to me." Never will it be known on earth the value the Refuge has been to the body and soul of this "little one" of the Saviour's flock. Well did he know the truth of that precious word,—"When thy father and thy mother forsake thee, then the Lord will take thee up."

MARGARET THE WORSE THAN ORPHAN.

THE same institution that saved Cuthbert, but in separate premises, provides for homeless and destitute girls. The following relates to one of its inmates:—

The Scripture Reader through whom this case was brought to the Refuge, says:—

"My first visit to the family of Margaret J—— was about four years ago. She then lived with her grandfather and grandmother, being the illegitimate child of their daughter, who is a vile and wicked wretch, and leading an abandoned life; she has

four or five other children. At the time Margaret was to be admitted into your Refuge, I visited her mother, who was then living in great sin in Soho, to get her sanction. She said, 'I might do what I liked with her.' The child's grandfather suffered from asthma and consumption many years. His parents were Welsh, and also his own wife. He was well known in our parish, having kept a small dairy many years ago, but his wife becoming addicted to drink he was soon brought to ruin. When I became acquainted with them, they lived in a little house of two rooms, in one of the courts in my district, in a most destitute and filthy condition. Poor Evan (by which name he was well known by the older inhabitants of the parish) was often very ill, and made worse by his wife's drunkenness. I have often visited the house and found her drunk and abusing him, and he, out of the bitterness of his soul, has wept and said it would be a great mercy if the Lord would take him. I remember calling one day and found her in her perpetual sottish state abusing him, and he was giving vent to his feeling with tears, and telling her to hold her tongue; he said he was very ill. He was dressing a few fowls' heads, which he said he had begged to make him a little broth. I tried to reason with her, but that was no use. I rebuked her sharply, but that was no use. I visited poor Evan up to within a few days of his death. A few days before he died he went to the hospital. His home was exceedingly wretched and filthy. I saw him before he went away; he said he should not live long. He spoke much of his unworthiness of the least of God's mercies, and the love of Christ to him. His last words to me were:—'My wife has been a drag to me all my life, I wish God would change her heart.' He was particularly fond of 'the child,' as he used to call Margaret, and he said he did not know what would become of her, but he hoped God would take care of her. I missed Margaret from the Ragged School, where I had persuaded her grandfather to send her, and did not see anything of her for several months. On my way to my Incumbent's house one morning, I met Mrs. J——, who told me a very pitiful story—that she and Margaret were starving for want of food, and she was afraid she was going out of her mind; she would say very strange things at times, and she would not dress herself, but stay in the house all day with scarcely a thing on her. I told her I would go down and see her in the course of the morning, if she would go home and stay till I came. I left her, and made all possible haste down to the house to see the girl. Since the death of poor Evan, a number of the 'pitch and toss gang' had broken all the window-frame out, and had broken the doors and knocked the back of the house in, so that you could walk through into the next court. When I arrived at the house, I called out to know if any one were up-stairs, but got no answer. I saw a chair-maker in the court, and called him. He said the girl was there, and came and called out 'Moggy,' but got no answer. He then went up-stairs, but did not find her; he came down and looked under the staircase, and found her lying upon some rags; he brought her out, with only a filthy ragged chemise on. She was ashamed to appear before me. I then asked her to tell me how she came to be in that condition. She burst into a flood of tears, and told me of her grandmother's horrible cruelties to her—that she had sold all her things to the rag-shop, and she had nothing to put on; that she often beat her, and left her without food, and made her sleep under the stairs. This was all confirmed by the chair-maker's wife and other neighbours. One of the women in the next court, seeing me in the house, came, and afterwards fetched her some bread and water, for which she appeared very thankful. I hastened back to my Incumbent, and brought him to witness the scene; but while I was away, one of the neighbours kindly took her to her house, provided her with a little frock, and took care of her till I obtained from you a letter of admission. I provided her with a pair of stockings and old shoes, and took her in a cab to the railway-station. We had to wait a little while at the station, and in the mean-

time everybody looked at us, and the child looked at everybody and at everything."

This girl is still in the Refuge, and bids fair to make a useful little servant. What a rescue for her, poor child! To conceive the awful misery from whence she has been saved is impossible; and, if the facts of her painful case had not been so thoroughly investigated by the Scripture Reader, many of the details would hardly be credited. But there is no doubt of their truth, and much more might be added respecting the degradation of the grandmother, as well as the girl's own mother; but decency forbids that any further revelations of the character of the mother should be made here; suffice it to say she is an "abandoned woman."

The Teachers' Column.

ANSELM ON SCHOOL DISCIPLINE.

"EADMER relates (fol. ed., par. 1721, p. 8,) that Anselm, being at a monastery, the abbot consulted him as to the education of the boys there, complaining, at the same time, that they were sadly perverse, indeed incorrigible, and yet night and day they were continually beating them, but still they grew worse and worse. At which Anselm, being astonished, said, 'Do you never give over beating them? When they grow up to be men how do they turn out?' 'Dull and brutish,' (*Hebetes et bestiales,*) was the reply. On which Anselm observed that 'it was but a poor return for all the pains and expense they were at in the education and maintenance of these children, if the end attained were the transmutation of human beings into brutes.' 'But,' rejoined the abbot, 'what must we do, then? we keep them as tight as we can, yet we do not succeed.' 'Keep them tight!' said Anselm; 'suppose you were to use the young trees in your garden thus, and allow them no freedom, what sort of timber would you get?' 'None but what was crooked and useless.' 'Are you not,' rejoined Anselm, 'producing the same effects in your boys? As they do not observe any love or kindness in your dealings with them, they think that you have no other motives in your discipline than envy and hatred, and so it turns out, most unhappily, that they grow up full of hatred and suspicion. He who is but young needs a gentle treatment—he must be fed with milk; cheerfulness, kindness, and love are the means whereby such are to be won to God;' on which it is recorded that the abbot fell on his face and confessed his error, and asked pardon of God.

"As an appendage to this history, perhaps the following notice of what passed in a ragged school at Bristol, extracted from the newspapers, may be pardoned by your lordships:—

"'Whilst one of the visitors was at the school during last week, a boy of about thirteen was seen to be extremely violent and refractory, a teacher endeavouring to lead him to the bottom of the class for inattention. He obstinately resisted, and stamped with rage. The master, observing the conflict, went to the boy, patted him gently on the head and cheek, and begged him to be a good boy. In a minute, before the master had quitted him, it came again to his turn to be asked by the teacher one of the arithmetical questions of the lesson, when he

cheerfully and promptly cried out, '48,' the proper answer. The crimson flush of anger had left his face; his countenance was as bright and placid as if the last few moments had not witnessed the storm that had agitated his passions, and he became quiet and docile. The visitor asked the master about him. He replied, 'That boy is the most unmanageable one in the school; he is clever, but very passionate. He has kicked my legs (happily he has no shoes); he has pelted me with mud in the streets. I have dismissed him from the school, but allowed him to come again on his earnest entreaty and promise of good conduct. If I had struck that lad when he was so irritated, or spoken harshly and angrily to him, his fury would have been quite ungovernable, but he can't withstand a word of kindness.'"—*Archdeacon Allen*, "Minutes," 1846, pp. 139, 140.

Correspondence.

OUTCAST GIRLS.

To the Editor of the Ragged School Union Magazine.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I write to you on a subject that is seldom absent from my thoughts, the sad state of what may be called "Outcast girls of tender age." There is much being done for boys, but little I can hear of for these poor almost forgotten creatures. While there are Homes for little boys and big boys, and Reformatories for bad boys, yet is there scarcely a place for girls, till they are *old* enough to be sent to a Penitentiary when their characters are gone and their health broken.

I speak from almost daily observation, at either the Ragged School or Reformatory with which I have been closely connected for the last seventeen years.

It is more than time some active measures were taken, to stem the torrent of misery, and consequent wickedness, that is crowding our large cities, and London more particularly, from its overwhelming size, and the numbers from all parts of the kingdom that flock to it. I am sure many a hand would come to the rescue of these helpless beings, and many a purse open to assist, were it but more generally known how much need there is to be up and doing.

It is girls of tender ages I speak of, from the age of six to fourteen. Many of these have no parents, and not even a relative to take them to the Workhouse; others with one or both parents in prison or transported; others with worse then no parents—drunkards; some with no father, and what is worse—no mother. I will instance a case in point. Three little creatures from five to ten years of age attended our Ragged School; they had scarcely rags to cover them till we gave them some clothing; we also gave them occasionally food; their tale was a very common one:—mother died three years since; father went out to work at six in the morning, and turned them all out in the rags they had slept in, taking the key with him, and did not return till dark or late at night; sometimes he gave them a piece of bread, and

often not; and it was the neighbours who took pity on them, and the little food they got at the school, kept them from starvation. Last October they disappeared, and on inquiry being made at their miserable home, they had gone away no one knew or cared where. The father was a bricklayer, and probably earning from 25s. to 30s. a week, and yet there seems to be no law to make this man provide for his own children. I could instance innumerable cases similar to this one, and even worse; and the many children I have seen and constantly see, who, were you to ask them who brought them up, could well answer, like Topsy, "I specs I grow'd," or were you to see one month's minutes of our weekly reports at one of the Penitentiaries, of what became of the inmates if they live to sixteeen or seventeen years, it would fill every heart with sorrow that such things should be in this Christian land.

And now, Mr. Editor, I must come to the point. In the multitude of counsellers there is wisdom, so I trust some will give their ideas in what way this great evil can be met, for in this advanced age we must not let it go on increasing.

I do not think *many small efforts* will do much good, but if a large concentrated committee of ladies experienced in these matters could be formed, when they had devised on some plan they could lay before the public, the funds would be forthcoming; and then let them set the younger ladies to work in carrying out their exposition under *their* direction.

I have visited many of the cities and towns of Northern Europe, but in none did I ever see such wretchedness and misery as may be seen in our large towns. There are two reasons I think for this; first, the sobriety of the parents; and next, the many institutions such as I plead for, supported both by Protestants and Romanists. I have made it my business to visit many, and I scarcely know whether those superintended by nuns or deaconesses are the best conducted, but many a lesson we might learn from both.

We know there are many Sisters of Charity and other sisterhoods at work in London and other places, and one huge *Protestant Community* is about being formed not far from this. Now why cannot we, without leaving our homes, or wearing any peculiar dress, and doing no other service than as sisters in the Lord Jesus, be up and working in a firm united heart, trying to rescue these poor little girls, who must inevitably perish at an early age if no hand is held out to save them?

I must apologize for trespassing so long on your time, but should you think this worthy a place in your columns, I trust there will be some plan speedily proposed, and as speedily carried into execution. I will only add, I will be ready, if called upon, to assist in every way I can to further this object.

I remain, dear Sir,

Yours respectfully,

G. J.

Highbury, 19*th March*, 1866.

P.S.—I consider this truly women's work, and it is to the ladies of London I appeal.

Notices of Meetings.

CAMDEN TOWN.

On Wednesday evening, the 21st ult., a meeting of the committee, teachers, and friends of the Camden Town Ragged School took place at the School-rooms, to present a testimonial of their esteem and affection towards Mr. W. H. Horwood, who for sixteen years has been the indefatigable collector on behalf of the schools.

After tea, J. M. Clabon, Esq., took the chair, and having warmly eulogised the untiring efforts of Mr. Horwood during the long period of his collectorship, presented him, in the name of the committee, teachers, and friends, with a handsome timepiece and purse of twenty guineas. Mr. Horwood responded in appropriate terms; and the meeting was subsequently addressed by the Rev. W. S. Langdale, Messrs. Lee, Wilkinson, and Pearce. A vote of thanks to the chairman, through whose kind liberality tea had been provided, was passed and acknowledged, and the meeting closed with prayer.

KINGSLAND RAGGED SCHOOLS.

The seventeenth annual meeting was held on Feb. 8th in the School-room of the Congregational Church, High Street, Kingsland.

The Rev. T. W. Aveling, the chairman, congratulated the audience on meeting them on the occasion of their seventeenth anniversary. He was glad to find that the Ragged Schools were well attended by scholars; but the superintendent had to complain, week after week, of a lack of teachers, which he much regretted; and he trusted many would come forward and lend their aid in carrying on so good a work. The school needed pecuniary help, which he trusted would be given.

The treasurer's report stated that the total amount received during the year was £202 1s. 9d. The total amount of expenditure was £210 12s. 3d. He might inform the meeting that since the report was prepared, he had received a cheque for £249 14s. 10d. from the executors of Mrs. De Grouchy, which would form the nucleus of a building-fund, and the Committee had resolved to place £200 at interest until the money was required to pay for the new building.

Dr. Leask said he thought the report was of a very gratifying character, although he regretted to see such a scarcity of teachers, at which he was not surprised, as it was such rough work. He was well aware that they had to deal with rogues. Who was to grapple with this uncultured portion of our race unless it were Christians. He trusted many Christians would come forward and engage in so good a work. Police magistrates had said to him, We wish you every success, and we all desire that you should lessen our labours, as it would be a great blessing to the neighbourhood. Some portions of the report were radiant in the light. The very reason of the difficulty presented before them should be an incentive to induce them to undertake the work of teaching the ignorant and depraved. Some of the poor little boys went to a place, which, by a kind of mockery, they called their homes, but when they were there they got nothing but kicks and curses. He wished to encourage the teachers to go on, for the work was the Lord's, and he would give them his blessing. They had the black and terribly black picture of sin, but they had Christ to deliver them from it, and a bright immortality before them.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Latham, Mr. Joscelyne, Mr. S. Clark, Mr. Smith, Mr. Hoon, and the Rev. C. Dukes.

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.

ESTABLISHED FOR THE SUPPORT OF

FREE SCHOOLS FOR THE DESTITUTE POOR.

The following contributions have been received in aid of the Ragged School Union from the 20th of January to the 19th of February, 1866, inclusive:—

General Fund (*continued from last month*).

	£	s.	d.
Kingston, S. C., Esq.	1	1	0
Knight, Miss	0	10	0
Knight, Mrs.	0	10	0
Lancaster, T., Esq.	1	0	0
Lance, Miss	1	1	0
Lee, J., Esq.	10	0	0
Lewis & Allenby, Messrs.	2	2	0
Linewood, R. M., Esq.	2	0	0
L. K., of Warwick	0	10	0
Loat, J. H., Esq.	1	11	6
Lockyer, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Lodge, R. J., Esq.	2	0	0
Lodge, Mrs.	1	0	0
Longstaff, Miss R.	1	0	0
Lucas, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Maggs, Mrs.	1	0	0
Maitland, J. F., Esq.	2	0	0
Mann, Horace, Esq.	1	1	0
Marris, Mrs.	0	10	6
Marston, Miss	1	1	0
Mathew, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Matthew vi. 3	20	0	0
MacLeod, N., Esq.	1	1	0
McAll, Mrs.	5	0	0
Merrieless, A., Esq.	1	1	0
Mexborough, Dowager Countess of	15	0	0
Miller, W. H., Esq.	1	1	0
Micklethwaite, Miss C. M.	5	0	0
O. O. O.	3	0	0
Orton, J. S., Esq.	2	0	0
Pagett, Miss	1	0	0
Pakenham, Admiral	10	0	0
Patteson, Rev. J.	0	10	6
Parkin, Rev. W.	1	1	0
Partridge, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Pearsall, Executors of the late Miss, per Rev. J. S. Pearsall	10	0	0
Perfect, R., Esq.	5	0	0
Platt, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Porter, R., Esq.	2	2	0
Prescott, The Misses	3	0	0
Randell, Messrs	1	1	0
Rankin, J., Esq.	0	10	6
Reade, Mrs.	0	10	0
Roberts, Major D.	1	0	0
Robertson, P., Esq.	1	1	0
R. W.	20	0	0
Sandham, Mrs.	2	3	0
Sanford, H., Esq.	1	1	0
Saurin, Admiral	1	0	0
Scott, Miss Alice	1	0	0
Scott, Mrs.	1	1	0
Shakerley, Dowager Lady	15	0	0
Shershon, Mrs.	1	1	0
Shuttleworth, & Co., Messrs.	2	2	0
Skynner, Miss	0	10	0
S. L., per Praeds	5	0	0
Smalley, E., Esq.	2	2	0
Smith, Mrs. and the Misses	4	4	0
S. S. W.	2	18	0
Stanley, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Stephenson, Sir M.	5	5	0
Stephenson, W. H., Esq.	1	0	0
Stewart, P., Esq.	1	0	0
Stopford, Admiral Sir R.	1	0	0
Surrage, J., Esq.	5	0	0
Swaine & Co., Messrs.	1	1	0
Tabrum, L., Esq.	2	2	0
Tapling, Messrs.	2	2	0
Tooke, Mrs.	1	1	0
Trotter, Mrs.	2	0	0
Turner, Mrs.	1	1	0
Tweedy, Mrs.	5	0	0
Usborne, Miss H.	10	0	0
Valiant, Lady	1	1	0
Vizer, E. B., Esq.	1	1	0
Von Orlech, Madame	1	0	0
Waldegrave, Countess Frances	2	2	0
Watson, Rev. J.	1	1	0
Webb, Miss	3	0	0
Whichcote, Mrs F.	3	0	0
White, J., Esq.	0	10	0
Whitworth, Miss	0	10	6
Wilkinson, Captain	0	10	0
Williams, W. W., Esq.	1	1	0
Williams, Miss	0	5	0
Wilson, Miss A. E.	0	10	0
Wilson, J. R., Esq.	1	1	0
Wing, Mrs. T.	5	0	0
Winter, T., Esq.	5	0	0
Woolley, G. B., Esq.	1	1	0
Wright, Mrs. V.	2	0	0
Wright, Mrs. W.	2	2	0

Excursion Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Mexborough, Dowager Lady	5	0	0

Refuge Fund.

	£	s.	d.
O. O. O.	2	0	0

School Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Coburg Row.			
Charteris, Lady	1	1	0
Evans, Miss A. E.	2	10	0
Cripples' Home (Girls).			
Mexborough, Dowager Countess of	5	0	0
Cripples' Home (Boys).			
Mexborough, Dowager Countess of	5	0	0
Doughty Street.			
Lance, Miss	0	19	0
Female Preventive.			
Mexborough, Dowager Countess of	5	0	0
Field Lane.			
Collected by a Lady at Y.	1	0	0
Griffin, Miss	0	5	0
Long, Mrs.	0	10	0
Surrage, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Whichcote, Mrs. F.	1	0	0
Fitzroy Market.			
Two Friends	0	10	0
Grotto Passage.			
Burfoot, Mrs.	1	1	0
Whichcote, Mrs.	1	0	0
Hatfield Street.			
J. H., Miss	0	5	0
Horseferry Road.			
Evans, Miss A. E.	2	10	0
Lamb and Flag.			
Bencroft, W., Esq.	0	10	0
Browne, Mrs. A. W.	1	1	0
Field, Mr. and Mrs.	0	10	0
Gent, George, Esq.	2	0	0
Hyde, Lieut.-Col. J. V.	5	0	0
Lockton, Mrs., and Friends	0	7	6
Proceeds of Christmas-tree, per Miss Moore	4	11	3
Shakerley, Dowager Lady	5	0	0
Webb, Mrs.	1	0	0
Teacher in a Needy School	0	2	6
Little Saffron Hill.			
Shakerley, Dowager Lady	5	0	0
Ragged Church and Chapel Union.			
Boobbyer, Miss L. L.	1	0	0
York Mews.			
Bennett, Mrs.	0	10	0
Long, Mrs.	1	0	0
Sale of Work, per Miss Hawkins	1	0	0
Wilson, The Misses	5	0	0
From J. W. Alexander, Esq.—			
Ragged Church and Chapel Union	3	2	0
Irish Church Missions	5	5	0
Church Pastoral Aid	4	4	0
Foreign Aid Society	3	3	0
Preaching in Theatres	3	3	0
Society for Suppression of Vice	3	3	0

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